

## Civil War Traveler | Manassas, Virginia

### Manassas and Area

A new visitor center is located in an old railroad station in the heart of Manassas and on the site of a critical Civil War rail junction. Two major battles were fought just a few miles north, along a creek known as Bull Run. The visitor center is a good place to get oriented to the area and learn about the town's railroad history. For a free visitor guide to Manassas and Prince William County, call 800-432-1792.

### Manassas National Battlefield Park

Park boundaries encompass key sites associated with the First (July 21, 1861) and Second (Aug. 28-30) Battles of Manassas (Bull Run). First Manassas is remembered as the first major land battle of the war, won by inexperienced Confederates who routed an equally raw Union force. Confederate Gen. Thomas J. Jackson became "Stonewall" for his role in the fighting. The second battle, also a dramatic Confederate victory, was much bloodier. More than 3,000 soldiers were killed during the battle. A 45-minute film is offered on the hour for an additional \$3 fee.

More info: [www.nps.gov/mana](http://www.nps.gov/mana) or 703-361-1339.

### Park highlights:

#### Signal Hill

Located just off Signal View Drive across the street from entrance to Signal Hill Park. For specific directions, contact the Manassas Museum or the Manassas National Battlefield Park. A Confederate observation post here warned of the Union effort to turn the flank of the Southern position during the initial stages of the First Battle of Manassas. It was the first use of wig-wag signals during wartime. Memorial cites first telecommunication on a battlefield.

#### Trails FAQ

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